

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103 in view of JP08031422. Applicants note for the record that the Office Action indicated that claims 1-3, 11 and 12 were rejected in view of JP08081422. However, Applicants believe that the Patent Office intended to cite to JP08031422 as a copy of same was also provided with the Office Action.

In response, claims 1-3 and 11 have been canceled and thus this rejection should be rendered moot. Further, Applicants have amended claim 12. Applicants believe that no new matter has been added thereby. As amended, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 12 is distinguishable from the cited art. Therefore, Applicants do not believe that JP08031422 anticipates or renders obvious the claimed invention.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Applicants further note that pending claims 13-17 were allowed as indicated on the Office Action Summary of the Office Action issued on July 18, 2003.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit reconsideration of same.

Respectfully submitted,

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